

## 2022 NIMHD Health Disparities Research Institute *Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)*

### General Information

#### What is the Health Disparities Research Institute's structure?

The HDRI consists of lectures on minority health and health disparities research, small group discussions, mock grant reviews, and seminars. Institute participants will have the opportunity to meet with NIH scientific staff engaged in health disparities research related to their interests both at NIMHD and across various NIH Institutes and Centers.

### Eligibility

#### Who qualifies for the HDRI?

- Applicants **must** be *early-stage investigators* ([ESI](#)) who have completed their terminal degree or post-graduate clinical training within the past 10 years. Visit NIH's [ESI Policies page](#) to see if you qualify.
- Applicants **must** have either a Ph.D., M.D./D.O., Sc.D., Dr.P.H., Pharm.D., Psy.D., D.D.S./D.M.D. or equivalent doctoral degree from an accredited domestic or foreign institution *at the time of submitting* the application.
- Applicants **must** be post-doctoral fellows, assistant professors, or individuals in comparable research positions.
- Applicants **must** be individuals who are planning to submit a K or R grant to NIH **within the next 12 months**.
- Individuals from [diverse backgrounds](#) are encouraged to apply.

#### Can I apply if I currently have or already had an NIH grant?

Individuals who currently hold or have been previously *awarded* an R01 or similar grant (annual budget of \$200,000 or more) as PI or MPI are ineligible. Individuals who have been *awarded* Ks, R03s, R21s, or other grants with annual budgets under \$200,000 are still eligible to apply.

#### Are staff from NIH or other HHS agencies eligible for the HDRI?

No. NIH and HHS staff, including persons engaged in fellowships/training at NIH or an HHS agency, are not eligible to apply.

#### Are previous participants of the HDRI or the Translational Health Disparities Course eligible to apply?

No. Previous HDRI participants and those who participated in the Translational Health Disparities Course are not eligible to apply.

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## Can foreign professionals apply?

The HDRI is open to all eligible applicants. However, the NIH cannot provide any financial or travel/visa related assistance beyond the standard acceptance confirmation.

## Application Process

### Can I discuss my application for the HDRI program or have it reviewed by NIMHD program officers or the HDRI Planning Committee before submitting?

Unfortunately, HDRI applications **cannot** be discussed or reviewed by NIMHD staff prior to submitting. It is highly encouraged that applicants work with their mentors to develop an HDRI application for submission.

### Where can I find more information on the NIH Biosketch?

[Read NIH's Biosketch guidance](#) to learn more about the non-fellowship and fellowship formats.

### What should be included in the personal statement and the specific aims page requested as part of the application?

- The personal statement should outline career goals, reasons for participating in the program, and plans for obtaining NIH funding. The word limit is 350 words (cut and paste optional).
- The NIH specific aims page should detail the scientific premise/background, aims/hypotheses, and proposed methodology that will form the basis of a future NIH grant submission. The word limit is 850 words, no citations required (cut and paste optional).
- There is no other specific formatting required for font or spacing.

### What are the specific requirements for the letters of reference/recommendation?

The applicant must submit two letters of reference/recommendation (2-page limit each) documenting support for the candidate and the future NIH grant submission. They must be submitted on letterhead in PDF format, and be addressed to the HDRI Selection Committee.

### Is HDRI admission first come, first serve?

No. All applications submitted will be reviewed by the selection committee and top finalists will be invited to attend the HDRI.

### When can I submit my HDRI application?

The HDRI application portal website opens February 7, 2022 and closes March 14, 2022, 5 p.m. ET. Troubleshoot your application accordingly. Late, incomplete, or emailed applications will not be accepted.

### When will notification of acceptance to the HDRI be sent?

All applicants will receive notification of their application status (accepted or declined) via email by June 1, 2022.

### Can I request feedback as to why I was not selected to participate in HDRI?

Due to the large volume of applications, feedback will not be provided to applicants.

## Logistics

### **Where will the HDRI take place?**

Depending on COVID-19 guidelines, the HDRI may be held in person or virtually in 2022. If in person the course will be held on the campus of the National Institutes of Health in Bethesda, MD.

### **When will the HDRI be held**

The HDRI will run from Monday, August 15, to Friday, August 19, 2022. The starting time will depend on if we are meeting virtually or in person.

### **Do I have to attend the entire Institute?**

Yes. Applicants are required to attend the entire duration of the HDRI and participate in all activities. Scholars are responsible for adjusting academic and clinical schedules well in advance of the HDRI.

### **How many Scholars will be accepted to the 2022 HDRI?**

Approximately 50 Scholars will be selected to participate in the Institute.

### **Will HDRI documents (e.g., presentations, reading materials) be available online during the course?**

Presentations and other materials may be distributed to accepted Scholars.

### **Is there a cost for the HDRI?**

No. The HDRI does not charge tuition to participate.

### **Will CMEs/CEU's be offered?**

No. CMEs/CEUs will not be offered.

### **Are there any auditing opportunities?**

Auditing is not allowed.